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TO: Ken Newman

DATE: November 11, 1994

FROM: Kevin Osborne *[Signature]*

RE: Status of U.S. Patent Applications Regarding Concentric Filters

The following is a current status list of U.S. patent applications concerning concentric filters.

A. FILTERS

PM 1483 [abandoned] Concerned a filter of either (1) tow central core surrounded by paper or (2) paper central core surrounded by tow. The original PM 1483 application was expanded by adding more detail, becoming PM 1483 CIP, and the original application was abandoned.

PM 1483 CIP [abandoned] and PM 1483 CIP CONT (a refile of PM 1483 CIP [pending]) Concerns a filter of either (1) tow central core surrounded by paper; or (2) paper central core surrounded by tow, wherein the central core RTD is between about 370 and 400 mm Hg and the filter has total RTD between about 135 and 146 mm Hg. A second CA plug is also claimed. The Patent Office mailed an Office Action on October 28, 1994. The Examiner has indicated that a claim directed to such a concentric filter with a second CA plug would be allowable once some informalities are corrected. The Examiner has continued to reject our claim to such a filter without a second CA plug, but has indicated that claims to such a filter without the CA plug would be allowable if various other limitations were recited, such as (a) web material core surrounded by CA having a denier per filament of about 8.0 and a total denier of about 30,000; (b) where the core is CA sheet, (c) where the web material (core or outer layer) has flavor components (recon, soluble tobacco components), (d) a filtration efficiency of about 67% measured as if unventilated; (e) a ventilation rate of about 67%; or (f) a mouth end recess. Also, we can obtain claims directed to any of features (a)-(f). We need to discuss the application further to prepare a Response.

PM 1706 [allowed and will issue November 22, 1994] This application concerns adding carbon to a corrugated web core surrounded by a fibrous layer and covers concentric and non-concentric arrangements. Relevant limitations include a central core RTD between about 285 and 500 mm Hg, a filter RTD between 115 and 285 mm Hg; and carbon particles with a moisture

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content between about 15.5% and 20.5% and a CCl₄ between about 50% and 60%.

PM 1706 CIP - [To be filed next week] Contains additional limitations regarding concentric filter with carbon. This application will also permit expansion of the carbon concentric filter if desired.

B. FILTER PREPARATION

PM 1646 [pending] Relates to various machines and process for making concentric filters. A First Action from the Patent Office rejected all of the claims and a response was filed October 6, 1994. No further word received.

PM 1752 [to be filed] Relates to formed adhesive for tacking charcoal to crimped paper (Lee Gregory).

Please give me a call at Ext. 3817 if you require additional information.

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